

CLAIMS

1. A vehicle which includes a chassis, at least first and second ground-engaging wheels, a support which is mounted to the chassis for pivotal movement, relatively to the chassis to a limited extent, the first wheel including a first axle whereby the first wheel is rotatably mounted to the support, a first shock-absorbing structure with a first mounting point, at which the first shock-absorbing structure is secured to the chassis or to the support, and a second mounting point, a lever mechanism with a first attachment point, at which the mechanism is pivotally secured to the chassis or to the support, and a second attachment point at which the mechanism is pivotally connected to the second mounting point, and at least one link which is connected at a first connection point to the lever mechanism and at a second connection point to the support.
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10. A vehicle according to claim 1 wherein the first wheel is driven by means of a prime mover which is mounted to the support and which is pivotally movable, relatively to the chassis, together with the support.
15. A vehicle according to claim 1 wherein the first mounting point is closer to the first axle than the second mounting point.
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20. A vehicle according to claim 1 wherein the spacing between the first connection point and the second attachment point is less than the

spacing between the first connection point and the first attachment point.

5. A vehicle according to claim 1 wherein, when the chassis is moved downwardly relatively to the first wheel, the second mounting point is moved towards the first mounting point against a damping force which is generated by the first shock-absorbing structure.
6. A vehicle according to claim 1 wherein the first shock-absorbing structure includes a first hydraulic damper and a first coil spring.
10. A vehicle according to claim 6 which includes a device for exerting a compressive force of variable magnitude on the first coil spring.
8. A vehicle according to claim 1 wherein the chassis includes a footboard and at least a greater part of the first shock-absorbing structure is below the footboard.
9. A vehicle according to claim 1 which includes a steering column which is mounted for pivotal movement, about an upwardly extending axis, relatively to the chassis, a fork assembly, a linkage mechanism which connects the fork assembly to the steering column and which allows reciprocating movement of the fork assembly relatively to the steering column, the second wheel including a second axle whereby the second wheel is rotatably mounted to the fork assembly, and a second shock-absorbing structure which is

mounted to dampen reciprocating movement of the assembly relatively to the steering column.

10. A vehicle according to claim 9 wherein the linkage mechanism includes an upper link which is pivotally connected to the steering column and the fork assembly, and a lower link which is pivotally connected to the steering column and to the fork assembly.
11. A vehicle according to claim 10 wherein the second shock-absorbing structure has a first fixing point whereby the second shock-absorbing structure is secured to one of the links and a second fixing point whereby the second shock-absorbing structure is secured to the fork assembly.
12. A vehicle according to claim 11 wherein the first fixing point is secured to the lower link.
13. A vehicle according to claim 12 wherein the first fixing point is spaced from a pivot point at which the lower link is connected to the fork assembly.
14. A vehicle according to claim 9 wherein the second shock-absorbing structure includes a second hydraulic damper and a second coil spring.
- 20 15. A vehicle according to claim 9 which includes a base assembly, to which the steering column is attached, which is mounted to the

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chassis and which is pivotally movable between a first position at which the steering column is in an operative road-going mode and a second position at which at least part of the steering column overlies the chassis in a storage mode, and a locking member which is operable, according to requirement, releasably to lock the base assembly in the first position or in the second position.